

THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHISM

Catherine, "this Holy Father of ours is a terrible man, and frightens people fearfully with his conduct and words. He seems to have a great trust in God, by reason of which he fears no man in the world, and he is manifestly striving to abolish the simony and great pomp that reigns in the Church of God."^j But Urban did not reserve his wrath for evil-doers ; the^{cc} servants of God " came in for their share, when they spoke unpalatable truths ; we still possess Catherine's letter of apology for Fra Bartolommeo di Domenico, who, " by his fault of manner and his scrupulous conscience," had thus excited the ready anger of her " sweet Christ on earth." ²

The presence of the Cardinal of Amiens in Rome seems to have brought things to a head. Led by him and Robert of Geneva, the cardinals resolved to use against Urban the weapon that the irregular nature of his election had put into their hands. Urban had mortally offended Onorato Gaetani, the Count of Fondi, by depriving him of the government of the Campagna, and refusing to repay a large loan which he had made to the Holy See. Amiens induced him to make common cause with the cardinals, and at the same time, together with the Cardinal of Geneva, he secretly encouraged Pierre Gandelin and Pierre Rostaing, who, in spite of promises from Urban and threats from the Romans, were still holding the Castello Sant' Angelo, not to surrender it to the Pope. This done, the ultramontane cardinals gradually left Rome, on plea of avoiding the heat, some with and some without Urban's leave, and made their way to Anagni (which the late Pope had fixed upon as the summer residence of the Curia), together with many other prelates of the court and the chamberlain, Pierre de Cros, who carried off the tiara of Gregory XI and most of the papal jewels. The first to go were the Cardinals of Aigrefeuille and Poitiers, who left on May 6 ; the last was Pedro de Luna, who stayed on in Rome until about June 24.

The position of the Cardinal of Aragon was a peculiar one. He could not but be aware that the election was regarded by most

¹ *Letters dei Jtscefofi*, 3. ² Letter 302
(16).